

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (withdrawn): A leather-like sheet material comprising a fibrous substrate and an elastomeric film layer which are bonded to each other through an adhesive layer that contains a silicone compound and that is formed from a water-soluble or water-dispersible elastic polymer.

2. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said silicone compound is water-soluble or water-dispersible.

3. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said adhesive layer further contains microcapsule particles charged with gas bubbles.

4. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said adhesive layer infiltrates the fibrous substrate for the bonding and has an infiltration thickness of 15 to 50 μm from the fibrous substrate surface in its contact interface to the fibrous substrate.

5. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said adhesive layer is formed of at least two different layers and at least the layer on the fibrous substrate side contains the silicone compound.

6. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said adhesive layer is formed of at least two different layers, the layer on the fibrous substrate side contains the silicone compound and the other layer or other layer(s) contains microcapsule particles charged with gas bubbles.

7. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said adhesive layer has a thickness of 30 to 150 μm .

8. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said fibrous substrate is a composite material formed of fibers and an elastic polymer.

9. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 8, wherein said elastic polymer is a polyurethane.

10. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein fibers of said fibrous substrate contain ultrafine fibers formed of a polyester.

11. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said elastomeric film layer has a thickness of 10 to 100 μm .

12. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said elastomeric film layer is a layer formed of a polyurethane.

13. (withdrawn): The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, which has an organic solvent content of 0.05% by weight or less.

14. (currently amended): A process for the production of a leather-like sheet material by attaching a fibrous substrate and an elastomeric film layer comprising polyurethane to each other, which comprises

(i) applying a treatment liquid (A) ~~water solution or water dispersion of an elastic polymer, the water solution or water dispersion containing a silicone compound,~~ to the attachment surface of one of the fibrous substrate and the elastomeric film layer, wherein the treatment liquid (A) is a water solution or water dispersion of a polyurethane-based elastic polymer and contains a silicone compound,

(ii) attaching the fibrous substrate and the elastomeric film layer so that the treatment liquid infiltrates into the fibrous substrate, and

(iii) drying the ~~applied solution or dispersion~~ treatment liquid.

15. (currently amended): The process for the production of a leather-like sheet material as recited in claim 14, wherein

the treatment liquid (A) ~~water solution or water dispersion of an elastic polymer, the water solution or water dispersion containing a silicone compound,~~ is applied to the attachment surface of said fibrous substrate, and

a treatment liquid (B) ~~the water solution or water dispersion of an elastic polymer~~ is applied to the attachment surface of the elastomeric film layer, ~~and the fibrous substrate and the elastomeric film layer are attached to each other,~~ followed by drying wherein the treatment liquid (B) is a water solution or water dispersion of a polyurethane-based elastic polymer.

16. (currently amended): The process for the production of a leather-like sheet material as recited in claim 14, wherein

the treatment liquid (A) ~~water solution or water dispersion of an elastic polymer, the water solution or water dispersion containing a silicone compound,~~ is applied to the attachment surface of said fibrous substrate, and

a treatment liquid (C) ~~the water solution or water dispersion of an elastic polymer, the water solution or water dispersion containing thermally expandable microcapsules,~~ is applied to the attachment surface of the elastomeric film layer, ~~and the fibrous substrate and the elastomeric film layer are attached to each other,~~ followed by drying wherein the treatment liquid (C) is a water solution or water dispersion of a polyurethane-based elastic polymer and contains thermally expandable microcapsules.

17. (currently amended): The process for the production of a leather-like sheet material as recited in claim 14, wherein the treatment liquid is infiltrated into the fibrous substrate to form ~~ansaid fibrous substrate and said elastomeric film layer are attached to each other to cause the~~ adhesive layer ~~to infiltrate the fibrous substrate for the bonding, the adhesive layer having an~~ infiltration thickness of 15 to 50 μm from the fibrous substrate surface ~~in its contact interface to~~ ~~the fibrous substrate.~~

18. (currently amended): The process for the production of a leather-like sheet material as recited in claim 14, further comprising the step of nipping the resultant set ~~wherein said~~ ~~fibrous substrate and said elastomeric film layer are attached to each other and dried, and then~~ ~~the resultant set is nipped~~ with a hot roll at a temperature of 100 to 150° C.

19. (new): The process for the production of a leather-like sheet material as recited in claim 14, wherein the silicone compound is a reactive H-silicone compound containing Si-H groups.